

e-Bugle

Garrett Bugle Internet Edition

Volume 57

June 2010

No. 6



Calendar

Fri., May 21	Pick up <i>Bugle</i> at P.O. lobby; Film Society, <i>Bottle Shock</i> , Town Hall; wine tasting, 7 pm	summer calendar dates for next <i>Bugle</i> (send to Mary Moyer,)
Sat., May 22	Progressive Dinner, 6 pm	Tues., June 8 Lunch Bunch, Town Hall, 12:30 pm
Tues., May 25	GPES Spring Chorus Concert, 7:30 pm	Wed., June 9 Women's Club meeting, Town Hall, 7:30 pm (see p 2)
Wed., May 26	Citizens Association Meeting, Town Hall, 8 pm, topic TBA; <i>Bugle</i> deadline for names of graduates	Mon., June 14 Town Council meeting, Town Hall, 8 pm
Thurs., May 27	Senior Games and Tea, Town Hall, 1:30–3:30 pm; GPES Instrumental Concert, 7:30 pm (see p 6)	Tues., June 15 School closes at GPES, 12:30 pm; <i>Bugle</i> deadline, 4 pm
Sat., May 29	Coffeehouse, Town Hall	Thurs., June 17 GP Casual Music Jam, Town Hall, 8 pm
Mon., May 31	Memorial Day; <i>no trash collection</i>	Fri., June 18 GPES building closes for good
Thurs., June 3	GP Casual Music Jam; Town Hall, 8 pm	Wed., June 23 Citizens Association Meeting, Town Hall, 8 pm, topic TBA
Fri., June 4	GPNS Fund-Raiser Dance, Town Hall; reservations (see p 3)	Thurs., June 24 Senior Games and Tea, Town Hall, 1:30–3:30 pm
Sat., June 5	GIVES collection, Penn Place, 9 am–1 pm; deadline for	Fri., June 25 Pick up <i>Bugle</i> at P.O. lobby; Film Society, <i>Black Stallion</i> , Town Hall, 7 pm (see p 6)
		Sun., June 27 Grosvenor Market Day, GP Swimming Pool, 12–2 pm

Our Town

The last time I was inside the Garrett Park Cooperative Nursery School, Rennie Davis was giving a speech about the Vietnam war. He wore a Nehru jacket. I remember that even then the building was rather stark, rather dark... So it was nice to hear from Tara Flynn, at the May Town Council meeting, that renovation bids are going out. Not a moment too soon. Also, the Nursery School is having a gala fund-raiser on June 4, and you're invited (see p 3).

And raise your hand if you knew that Nils Lofgren grew up in Jill and Jim Joseph's house. The Council has just approved the Josephs' application for a variance. (Maybe the expansion will include a museum and a shrine?)

More than 60 people have already signed up for this year's Progressive Dinner on Saturday, May 22. On the Friday before that event, the Film Society will show *Bottle Shock* and offer a wine tasting.

In his report, the Mayor thanked our very able Election Judges, and congratulated Beth Irons and Hans Wegner on their reelection to the Council.

Although there have been some unsettling adjustments downward in terms of county revenue sharing, Ted Pratt explained that our town's budget will be pretty much unscathed.

Installation of a large vault for the sprinkler system at the newly expanded Garrett Park

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Elementary School might mean our having to take down two big trees. The town is looking into whether there's any way we can avoid this.

The Mayor thanked the town residents who came out on Weed Warrior day and hacked away at all that bamboo in Porcupine Woods. However, our glamorous arboretum has an ugly underbelly—not merely bamboo hacking, but also the occasional collapse of trees onto electric lines, streets, and houses. There was a big tree-fall on Rokeby recently, and also, as the Mayor recounted, one on Oxford, which damaged two cars. Phil Normandy will inspect all the town's tulip poplars.

There will be a Council retreat on Saturday, June 5, at 9 am in the Town Office. Councilmembers will review their areas of responsibility.

The Garrett Park Pool Association will be meeting with the Council to discuss its dues structure, its senior status policy, the status of a tree on the pool lot, and ways to decrease noise during the summer season.

Jack Mandel reported that a town resident is interested in leasing space on the top floor of Penn Place. Terms are being negotiated.

In response to a question from Jack about our voting lists, Ted explained that they are in need of updating, as they include some people who no longer live here (and some people who no longer live). The town doesn't have the resources, or an approved process, to edit the lists at this point.

The Land Use Task Force report will be presented at the July Council meeting.

Finally, the ever-problematic Keswick/Shelley Court drainage system is being surveyed, Hans Wegner reported, with an eye toward repair.

Margaret Soltan

Art at Penn Place

Beginning June 6, the work of two artists will be featured at the Penn Place Art Space.

Cathy Hirsh ran a consulting business for a major IT firm before she retired and turned her attention to art. She works in multiple media—watercolor, oil, acrylic, and gouache—depending on the subject and the visual impact she wants. Cathy writes, "I find painting a joy, and I hope that is clear in my work."

Sandra Cepaitis retired from a career as an early childhood educator and turned her energies to watercolor and photography. Sandra writes, "I frequently find inspiration in my garden and want to share the beauty with others."

Bert Zbar

Visit Garrett Park's Web site:
www.garrettpark-md.gov

GP Women's Club Needs You!

It is time for fresh ideas and new people for the Garrett Park Women's Club. This is an enjoyable group of women who plan and develop town functions for all to enjoy. From Santa at holiday time to the Progressive Dinner, Attic in the Street, interesting speakers, holiday decorating, and swapping plants, we create opportunities for all town residents to come to know one another, and to enrich our lives.

Current officers have been in place for four years. Although we all plan to stay involved, we need *you* to carry the torch. We will be having elections for new officers, and if you are interested, please call Geri Fitzgerald.

Please come to the next Women's Club meeting: Wednesday, June 9, 7:30 pm, in the Town Hall.

Green Again

This month we have another set of paired donors for our green banner. Patrick and Therese Keating gave money for half of the banner, and Florence Gootenberg gave for the other half. Which half is whose I'm not sure—but we thank them anyway! Anyone else like to get on the list? Please send your contribution to Mary Moyer, Box 98, with a check made out to the Citizens Association. The sponsorship of the green banner now costs \$60, unless you would like to share the honor with a neighbor or two. We are funded until next December. Many thanks.

Did you pick up your *Bugle* from the box on the table in the P.O.? If you miss getting your copy before the box disappears, you can get one from the Town Office, Peggy Pratt, or me. Only a little over 250 copies were taken this past month, which was slightly better than last month! Must have been the candidates' statements that were in the issue. Doing the distribution this way has saved the Citizens Association money, because smaller number of copies is needed, and mailing costs have gone way down. If you find that for some reason you aren't trained to get your monthly copy from the PO, you can always subscribe for a copy to be mailed to you First Class. Just get in touch with Jane Salomon.

Mary Moyer

The *Garrett Bugle* is a publication of the Citizens Association of Garrett Park, published 10 times a year. Publication of the *Bugle* is supported by member dues. All residents of Garrett Park are members of the Citizens Association. Yearly dues (\$20 per family or \$10 per individual per address) can be sent to Citizens Association, Box 456, Garrett Park, MD 20896.

Citizens Association Officers:
President: Chris Strong (Chris.s.strong@gmail.com)
Co-Vice-Presidents: Todd Harris and Mario Grande
Treasurer: Lara Hines
Secretary: Leslie Bethke-Pope
Members at large: Cathy Rinzel, Mike Grieb, Kathryn Mitchell

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First-class subscriptions cost \$15 (bulk mail subscriptions are no longer available). Letters to the editor can be submitted by mail or hand to *Bugle* staff or by e-mail through the town Web site: www.garrettpark-md.gov/submit-BugleArticle.php. The editor reserves the right to edit submissions for length and clarity. Unsigned letters will not be printed.

Town Administrator Notes

Town Elections: Many thanks for the fine work of the Judges of Election: Judy Heyman, Chief Judge; Judges Brenda Artim and Margaret Goldsborough; and Alternate Judge Cliff Tarpy. Thanks also to poll workers Bob Flanders, Farhad Heidarian, Natalie Grande, Carolyn Shawaker, and Molly Shuck. Congratulations to the winners, Chris Keller, Beth Irons, and Hans Wegner, with thanks and appreciation to Chuck Berry and Bill Rivers for their willingness to serve on the Council. Best wishes to our reelected Mayor and Councilmembers!

Large Item Collection: There will be a large item collection Saturday, July 10. Please don't put items out the weekend before—we want the town to look sharp for the Fourth of July!

Garrett Park Building Permits: We are well into the building season, and I would like to remind everyone to please check with the Town Office to find out if your project needs a Garrett Park permit. A town permit is required to demolish any building larger than 400 square feet. Also, a Garrett Park building permit is required whenever a new structure is to be built, including

a new house, shed, garage, or similar structure, or when the size of a house is proposed to be increased with an addition, a deck, a porch, or the like. The town is concerned only with the relationship of the proposed construction to the size of the lot and it's setback from the lot's boundary. The town also requires a permit for driveway or parking pad construction or repair. A town building permit should be applied for before you apply for a Montgomery County building permit.

Montgomery County Building Permits: Montgomery County requires building permits for any structure above ground level (not patios or driveways), including sheds, garages, decks, fences, etc. A county permit is also required for any alteration to a structure (other than ordinary repair or maintenance) and for demolition. The county is concerned with zoning, health & safety, plumbing, structural, electrical, and the like. For more information, contact the Montgomery County Department of Permitting Services at 240 777-6300. As always, the Town Office will assist you in any way possible.

Ted Pratt, Town Administrator

Citizens Association News

At its last meeting, on April 28, the Citizens Association held the annual Candidates' Forum. Town Council candidates Chuck Berry, Beth Irons, Bill Rivers, and Hans Wegner discussed their views on issues important to the Garrett Park citizenry and answered questions from the audience.

Upcoming Events

Garrett Park Community Center Gala. The GP Nursery School and the CA will co-host a gala to benefit the GP Community Center. The benefit will be held on Friday, June 4, at the Town Hall from 7 to 10 pm (see announcement, this page).

July 4 Parade. The Citizens Association would like to hear your best ideas for the theme for this year's July 4th parade. Please e-mail your ideas to Kathryn Mitchell at kmitchell@audubon-naturalist.org. There will also be a box placed in

the Post Office to collect suggestions. Volunteers are needed to help at the parade and afterward. Please e-mail Leslie Bethke-Pope at lbethke02@yahoo.com if you are available. Convertibles are needed to transport parade dignitaries. Please contact Chris Strong if you have a convertible that can be used in the parade.

Garrett Park listserv. To join this electronic forum, which allows neighbors to communicate information about town concerns, safety issues, upcoming events, and recommended services, e-mail Todd Harris or sign in at groups.yahoo.com/group/GarrettParkneighbors/join.

Questions or comments for the Citizens Association? If so, please send a note to P.O. Box 456 or e-mail Chris Strong (Chris.s.strong@gmail.com).

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Community Center Gala

We hope you'll join us for a special event at Town Hall on June 4 from 7 to 10 pm. Get yourself dressed up and come enjoy the music of the Stepping Stones (with lead singer Dan Devise of Garrett Park), as well as finger foods, drinks, raffled prizes, and more. Tickets are \$45 per person in advance or \$50 per person at the door and will include one free wine, beer, or margarita. You can send your payment to GPNS, PO Box 314, Garrett Park, MD 20896. You may also pay at the door, but please do RSVP to Alison Pearce to reserve your spot.

Bugle Notes . . . Sweet and Sour

- ♪ We only have two students graduating from anywhere in June? Get your child's name to Mary Moyer ASAP to be included in the next *Bugle*.
- ♪ If you have any dates for events that you are sponsoring during late June, July, August, or September, please send those dates Mary's way also by June 14.
- ♪ Old clothes and textiles can be given to the Clothing and Textiles Recycling Program at the county's Transfer Station, 16101 Frederick Rd., Derwood. The program accepts any clean and dry fabric, 14 x 14 inches or larger, as well as shoes (pairs or singles), belts, and handbags.
- ♪ Ken and Glenda Ingham announce the birth of a grandson to Alison (Ingham) and Brent Blakely on April 5. The baby joins his 5½-year-old brother, and all are doing well.
- ♪ Karen and Jim Cole dropped us a note expressing their appreciation for Jeremy Lichtenstein's support of their nonprofit Big Learning, Inc. (www.biglearning.org), which is dedicated to hands-on, real-world learning experiences. Jeremy is currently sponsoring "Building Big and Small," an after-school class at Garrett Park Elementary School, in which students learn by designing and building small and large structures. Because Big Learning classes use more materials and tools than typical after-school classes, Karen approached Jeremy to get feedback on a sponsorship program she envisioned to help defray some of the cost. "Jeremy not only had a lot of great feedback about the sponsorship program, he stepped right up and said he'd be our first sponsor," she says.

Jobs List

Did you know that the Town Office maintains a list of young people interested in doing odd jobs? The current list is reproduced below. Please call those on the list if you need any of the services offered.

And if your name isn't on the list and you're interested in earning money by cutting grass, or walking dogs, or pet sitting, or babysitting, or anything else, send your name to the Town Office (301-946-0175) by June 10, and we will add it to the list and reprint in next month's *Bugle*.

Please see the list in the printed *Bugle* or call the Town Office. It is the Bugle's policy not to include private telephone numbers, private e-mail addresses, or names of minor children in the *e-Bugle*.

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Letter from the Mayor

I want to again thank the Judges of Election for their hard work in the recent town election; appreciation is also due the Citizens Association for sponsoring and conducting the helpful Candidates' Forum. Congratulations to Councilmembers Beth Irons and Hans Wegner on their reelection. We owe a debt of gratitude to all the candidates for their willingness to run in a contested election, thus promoting discussion and choice for Garrett Park voters. Bill Rivers is to be commended for encouraging new debate and thought on town topics. Primarily, the voters of Garrett Park should be justly proud of again turning out in significant numbers to express their choice for representation in the two years to come. And of course I am pleased to be writing in this spot again; thank you for your support.

Thank you also to the residents who volunteered their time in Porcupine Woods on "Weed Warrior Day." Winter-damaged plant material was removed, and further progress was made in the fight to reclaim areas of native wildflowers from the onslaught of invasive nonnative plants that are rapidly forcing out our native "spring ephemerals." Over the years, many residents have contributed their time to this undertaking; Kay Hager deserves special recognition for her long-term efforts and generous care of both Porcupine Woods and Cambria Park.

In the coming months, residents will have the opportunity to consider two major initiatives that are nearing important junctures. The Land Use Task Force is working toward a report that will be submitted to the Town Council within the next few months. The report will give us the opportunity to consider the sort of land use we want in Garrett Park for decades to come. I urge you to participate in the discussion, hearings, and other opportunities to have your voice heard as the Town Council considers the Task Force's findings and recommendations.

The next few months will also see an acceleration of the town's consideration of potential acquisition of the Garrett Park Estates Local Park, also known as the Community Center—home of the

Garrett Park Cooperative Nursery School. Considerations of lease and deed issues are proceeding toward resolution. The Nursery School has issued a Request for Proposals for construction/rehabilitation of the Community Center building. They are also undertaking further fund-raising; I enthusiastically encourage you to support those efforts.

The town's aim is to have lease and deed matters at a point where we can discuss, we hope at the June Council meeting, remaining issues involving potential town acquisition of the Local Park (Community Center building and grounds); these will chiefly be finance and construction elements. A *final* decision is unlikely before early fall, but we want to promote a broader dialog with the entire town in an effort to better assess residents' views. Please participate and let your voice be heard in this important decision for the town.

Finally, a note of gratitude to the town's consulting arborist, Phil Normandy, the town maintenance staff, and the many residents who have contributed their time and talents to various projects that improve the appearance of our beloved town. These undertakings—large and small, over a number of years—show their cumulative effect to best advantage at this time of year. The visual and emotional pleasure imparted by the appearance of our surroundings is yet another satisfaction of living in Garrett Park.

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GPES

Teachers are madly packing their belongings so that they can be shipped to the holding school. If you can volunteer some time to your child's teacher, or to anyone else at the school, please call the school office (301-929-2170) to get your name on the list. Everything must be ready to go by June 18. The boxes and tape have been supplied by MCPS, but the tape dispensers are in short supply. Also, the library would like to know if you have any surplus bubble wrap. They need a lot to cover the computers and other equipment before they are sent to the Grosvenor holding school. You can drop that off at the office.

The Instrumental Music teacher, Phil Jehle, is retiring after 24 years at Garrett Park. We are inviting anyone who studied with him and can still play an instrument to come back to join in playing the final piece in his final concert at the school on May 27, 8 pm. If you are interested in playing, give me a call.

GPES has been recognized as an Audubon Naturalist Society Maryland Green Kids School. As a result of the staff's hard work in teaching students strategies to save our environment, the school will be recognized at a later ceremony.

Mary Moyer

Black Stallion to Garrett Park

The perfect family film to begin the summer, *Black Stallion* (1979, rated G), has it all: bonding between boy and animal, overcoming adversity and loss, and triumph against the odds. The film is based on the classic novel that children have loved since it was first published in 1941. The film, to be shown June 25, was nominated for many awards, especially its memorable cinematography.


Dinner will feature classic summertime food such as hot dogs and hamburgers (regular and vegetarian) with potato salad and coleslaw and ice cream for dessert. Sodas, beer, wine, popcorn, and nuts also will be on offer. Bring the whole family and let GPFS do the cooking.

Native Trees Available

For the past four years, David Ruppert, a graduate of GP Elementary and currently a PhD candidate in soil science at the University of Maryland, has been offering, at UMD, seedlings of native trees that are sourced from the D.C. area. There are many excellent seedlings left over from this year's event. Garrett Park is home to many wonderful native trees, but many are older and have begun to decline. Plant a seedling now where you want a tree in the future. Recent research by Doug Tallamy of the University of Delaware points to the importance of native trees to the mid-Atlantic food web, and that of Marc Abrams of Penn State indicates that many of these productivity-maximizing species are not being replaced in the landscape. Keep the tree cover of Garrett Park genetically local and maximally productive by planting one of these UMD trees in September. Call (301-787-7970) or e-mail (druppert@umd.edu) to reserve a tree that will get tender loving care for you until September, when it is time to plant. Several such trees have been planted in GP and White Flint Estates, as these communities expand the depth of native species in their communities. Many of the species offered are not available retail. The seedlings offered might be the only way to keep these species in the GP landscape. Among the oaks, species offered include white, black, shingle, post, black-jack, chestnut, burr, swamp white, and southern red.



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